



House Judiciary

February 11, 2020

HB 2587

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Testimony of:

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Chair Patton, Vice-Chair Ralph, and Ranking Member Carmichael, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony to the committee in support of House Bill 2587.

House Bill 2587 proposes an additional basis by which a county can qualify for venue in an agency adoption. Currently, if all parties in interest agree in writing, venue can be established in any county in Kansas. Otherwise, venue for agency adoptions is limited to counties in which the adoptive family resides, in which the child to be adopted resided prior to being placed in the agency's custody, or where the principal place of business for the child placing agency is located.

As currently written, HB 2587 would add counties "where the department or any subcontracting agency has an office" as an option for venue in agency adoptions, when the agency is the State of Kansas or any state agency. The department for children and families respectfully requests that the committee consider an amendment to replace "subcontracting agency" with "foster care case management grantee" as the bill is considered.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of House Bill 2587. I'm happy to answer questions or provide additional information if needed.